

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 FRB-03 USIA-06 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 EPG-02 OMB-01 EUR-12 /066 W

-----132047Z 109096 /75

R 131745Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2773

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1067

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BB

SUBJ: STRAINS WITHIN CARICOM - BARBADIAN EXPORTERS RENEW  
CRITICISM

1. IN THE WAKE OF GUYANA'S RECENT DECISION TO FLOUT THE  
CARICOM ACCORD BY PURCHASING SOAP FROM THE U.K. INSTEAD OF  
TRINIDAD, BARBADIAN GARMENT MANUFACTURERS HAVE AGAIN  
CRITICIZED GUYANA AND JAMAICA FOR LIMITING THEIR IMPORTS  
OF BARBADIAN CLOTHING. THE PRESIDENT OF THE BARBADOS  
MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION (BMA) HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THUS  
FAR ONE-SIXTH OF THE GARMENT INDUSTRY'S WORK FORCE HAS  
BEEN IDLED BY GUYANESE AND JAMAICAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS  
AND THAT ANOTHER 20 PERCENT ARE IN DANGER OF ALSO BEING  
LAID OFF.

2. RESPONDING TO BMA COMPLAINTS, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER  
AND MINISTER OF CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS, EXTERNAL TRADE AND  
INDUSTRY, BERNARD ST. JOHN STATED MAY 7 HIS BELIEF THAT  
THE "SITUATION SHOULD IMPROVE TOWARDS THE LATTER  
PART OF 1977" AND THAT LOCAL EXPORTERS MUST  
INCREASINGLY LOOK OUTSIDE OF CARICOM. ST. JOHN ALSO  
NOTED THAT GOB PLANS TO HAVE THE CENTRAL BANK INSURE  
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EXPORTERS AGAINST NON-PAYMENT (AS HAS OCCURRED WITH  
BOTH GUYANESE AND JAMAICAN BUYERS) SHOULD HELP  
ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEM.

BEM COMMENT: THE BARBADIAN PRIVATE SECTOR GENERALLY  
BELIEVES -- AND HOPES -- CARICOM IS DEAD. HOWEVER,  
THE GOB, WHILE ALMOST EQUALLY PESSIMISTIC IN PRIVATE,

IS UNDERSTANDABLY UNWILLING TO APPEAR OUT FRONT IN  
ANY MOVE TO FORMALLY SCRAP THE REGION'S COMMON  
MARKET. YET DOMESTIC PRESSURE ON THE GOB TO  
"RETALIATE" AGAINST GUYANA AND JAMAICA CAN BE  
EXPECTED TO GROW AS LABOR INCREASINGLY JOINS  
BUSINESS AND CONSUMERS IN THE BELIEF THAT MEMBERSHIP  
IN CARICOM HAS A NET NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE ISLAND'S  
ECONOMY.  
SIMMS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CLOTHING, DISPUTES, IMPORT CONTROLS, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BRIDGE01067  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770169-0917  
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**Line Count:** 71  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Date:** 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2542404  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STRAINS WITHIN CARICOM - BARBADIAN EXPORTERS RENEW CRITICISM  
**TAGS:** ETRD, PORG, BB, GY, TD, JM, CARICOM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a9823895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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